AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A method comprising:

detecting, by a portable computer system, a docking device class circuit present in a docking station to which the portable computer system is docked, on a bus, the portable computer system and the docking station being connected by a bus therebetween ; and

obtaining by the portable computer system, -a description of at least one device in a the docking station from the docking device class circuit.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

controlling the at least one device via commands appropriate to the bus.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein the bus comprises at least one Universal Serial Bus, at least one Peripheral Component Interconnect Bus, or at least one AT bus, or at least one wireless bus, or at least one optical bus.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein said controlling the at least one device via commands appropriate to the bus further comprises:
controlling at least one device associated with docking.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein said controlling the at least one device via commands appropriate to the bus further comprises:
controlling at least one power supply in a docking station.

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6. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein said controlling at least one power supply in a docking station further comprises:

activating a power supply having voltage appropriate to a portable computer system.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein said controlling the at least one device via commands appropriate to the bus further comprises:

controlling at least one power rail that supplies power to a portable computer system.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said detecting a docking device class circuit present on a bus further comprises:

detecting an identifier associated with the docking device class circuit.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 8, wherein said detecting an identifier associated with the docking device class circuit further comprises:

detecting an identification number reserved for the docking device class circuit.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said obtaining a description of at least one device in a docking station from the docking device class circuit further comprises:

obtaining a list of devices under the control of the docking device class circuit.

11. (Amended) A method comprising:

detecting a docking device class circuit present on a bus; and

obtaining a description of at least one device in a docking station from the

docking device class circuit by obtaining a list of devices under the control of the

docking device class circuit, wherein the obtaining a list of devices includes ~~The~~

~~method of Claim 10, wherein~~ said ~~obtaining a list of devices under the control of~~

~~the docking device class circuit further comprises:~~ obtaining a list of devices

under the control of a general purpose I/O device under the control of the

docking device class circuit.

12. (Amended) A method comprising:

detecting a docking device class circuit present on a bus; and

obtaining a description of at least one device in a docking station from the

docking device class circuit by obtaining a list of devices under the control of the

docking device class circuit, wherein the obtaining a list of devices includes ~~The~~

~~method of Claim 10, wherein~~ said ~~obtaining a list of devices under the control of~~

~~the docking device class circuit further comprises:~~ obtaining driver code

appropriate to the at least one device.

13. (Amended) A method comprising:

detecting a docking device class circuit present on a bus; and

obtaining a description of at least one device in a docking station from the

docking device class circuit by obtaining a list of devices under the control of the

docking device class circuit, wherein the obtaining a list of devices includes ~~The~~

~~method of Claim 10, wherein~~ said ~~obtaining a list of devices under the control of~~

~~the docking device class circuit further comprises:~~ obtaining driver code

appropriate to the docking device class circuit.

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14.   (Amended) A method comprising:

        detecting a docking device class circuit present on a bus; and

        obtaining a description of at least one device in a docking station from the docking device class circuit by obtaining a list of devices under the control of the docking device class circuit, wherein the obtaining a list of devices includes The method of Claim 10, wherein said obtaining a list of devices under the control of the docking device class circuit further comprises: obtaining driver code combination set appropriate to both the docking device class circuit and the at least one device.

15.   (Amended) A method comprising:

        detecting a docking device class circuit present on a bus; and

        obtaining a description of at least one device in a docking station from the docking device class circuit by obtaining a list of devices under the control of the docking device class circuit, wherein the obtaining a list of devices includes The method of Claim 1, wherein said obtaining a description of at least one device in a docking station from the docking device class circuit further comprises: obtaining a bus description table from the docking device class circuit.

16.   (Amended) A method comprising:

        detecting a docking device class circuit present on a bus; and

        obtaining a description of at least one device in a docking station from the docking device class circuit by obtaining a list of devices under the control of the docking device class circuit, wherein the obtaining a list of devices includes The method of Claim 15, wherein said obtaining a bus description table from the docking device class circuit further comprises: obtaining a description of at least one Peripheral Component Interconnect bus resident within a docking device, or at least one Universal Serial Bus resident within a docking device, or at least one

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Accelerated Graphics Port Bus resident within a docking device, or at least one
AT bus resident within a docking device, or at least one proprietary bus, or at
least _one_ ~~on~~ wireless bus, or at least one optical bus.

17.   (Amended) A docking station comprising:

    a docking connector for coupling a portable computer system to the
docking station; and

    a docking device class circuit, coupled to the docking connector.
the docking device class circuit providing the portable computer system with a
description of at least one device in the docking station

18.   (Original) The docking station of Claim 17, further comprising:

    the docking device class circuit operably coupled to a device associated
with docking.

19.   (Original) The docking station of Claim 18, further comprising:

    the docking device class circuit operably coupled to at least one device
associated with ad hoc functions or at least one power supply device.

20.   (Original) The docking station of Claim 17, further comprising:

    the docking device class circuit operably coupled to a general purpose I/O
controller.

21.   (Amended) A docking station comprising:
a docking device class circuit ~~The docking station of Claim 17, said docking
device class circuit further comprising: the docking device class circuit~~ having a
bus description table.

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22.   (Amended) A docking station comprising:

a docking device class circuit; and ~~The docking station of Claim 17, further~~

~~comprising:~~

at least one optical connector or at least one wireless connector.

Cancel claims 23 – 55.